REGIONAL OVERVIEW

According to UNHCR, 5,606,895 have now fled Syria to surrounding countries in the region. 1.4 million of them fled in 2014 alone with an average of more than 3,935 people per day. In 2015 more than 617,188 Syrians fled the country, an average of more than 1,714 per day. In 2017 more than 623,374 Syrians fled the country, an average of more than 1,731 per day.

Children now make up 45% of the refugee population, meaning there are an estimated 2,523,103 Refugee children in the region.

5,606,895
Registered Syrian Refugees
30 September, 2018, UNHCR

2,523,103
Estimated number of children
30 September, 2018, UNHCR

OUR RESPONSE

Save the Children has worked in the Middle East for decades. Since July 2012 we have been running an ambitious emergency response to the growing crisis in the region. We have so far received $332m for our humanitarian interventions in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey and Syria.

To date we have reached 3,636,229 people in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey and Syria, including approx. 2,312,590 children.

With the needs growing every day in in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey and Syria, more funding is desperately needed.

Save the Children is actively coordinating with governments, UN agencies and other NGOs to respond to the humanitarian crisis.

URGENT NEEDS

2018 has seen a number of changes on the ground in Syria, but the conflict continues to be characterized by attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure by parties to the conflict. Basic services and infrastructure have been devastated by years of fighting and deprivation and the overall levels of humanitarian need remain high - with 13.1 people in need of humanitarian assistance, including 5.3 million children.

This year has seen unprecedented rates of internal displacement, particularly within north-west Syria and from Eastern Ghouta, northern Homs and Dara’a as those areas changed hands. More than 920,000 people fled their homes in the first four months of the year alone, many of them children who were forced to flee their homes, schools and friends for the third or fourth time. The fate of Idlib province, which hosts many of the displaced where and the more than a million children live, is now in the balance as the population faces a potential military escalation, conflict and helped to recover.

Syria’s children have experienced renewed and growing violence with widespread violations of IHL and IHRL and the continuing use of devastating weapons such as cluster bombs, which are banned under international law, bunker busting bombs as well as chemical weapons. The international community must ensure a clear commitment by the parties to the conflict to uphold their obligations to grant humanitarian access to all areas, and refrain from attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure, including hospitals and schools.

Refugee hosting countries are also under immense strain due to the unprecedented scale of the Syrian refugee exodus and protracted nature of the crisis. There is an increasing push for refugees to return to their homes, but Save the Children’s position is that Syria is not currently safe for returns. The international community needs to honour the commitments it has made at successive conferences and provide sufficient support to Syria’s neighbouring countries to prevent refoulement (forced returns), ensure every last child has access to quality education, facilitate adults’ access to livelihoods and guarantee the legal status and protection of refugees.

Syria Key Facts

- People displaced in the last 12 months from Affected Areas of Northern and Southern Syria, UNHCR: 1.3 m
- People in need in hard-to-reach areas 2018, OCHA: 1.16 m
- People internally displaced by violence 2018, OCHA: 6.2 m
- People estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance in Idlib, OCHA: 2.1 m

Syria Crisis Response

Updated September 2018
**SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE**

**SYRIA**
The most vulnerable children are those who remain inside Syria, who risk death, illness, abuse and exploitation on a daily basis. The humanitarian needs in Syria are incomparable, and providing essential life-saving services to Syrian children and their families remains a priority.

The widespread insecurity and fighting inside Syria makes this a challenging context, but we are delivering humanitarian assistance to children and their families. We have reached 2,906,575 beneficiaries in Syria, including 1,935,672 children up to August 2018.

**OTHER REFUGEE LOCATIONS**
North Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Libya) 33,545

**JORDAN**
Jordan hosts the region’s largest refugee camp, Za’atari, where we are working in multiple sectors. Two thirds of Syrian refugees live in host communities.

- Refugee in Jordan - 24 September 2018, UNHCR

Our response

*Reached 311,824,
of these 154,398 are children
*Counter Reset starting January 2018.

Highlights from our response:
- Under Lego Project
  - We targeted 399 caregivers and 776 children.
- We have trained 16 caregivers on Lego manuals.
- Hands Up Foundation
  - We distributed 19 personal development kits across beneficiaries.
- We have delivered 2 awareness sessions on education.
- Under Save You Save Me Project
  - 5 Child Protection (CP) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) cases identified & managed, 16 children reached via psychological therapy.
  - We delivered 2 workshops on Mobilization for MOE staff.
- ECHO: 19 Jordanians & 349 Syrian Children
  - Our response

*Reached 3,266,
of these 2,982 are children
*Counter reset of beneficiaries January 2018 and removing North West Syria figures.

Highlights from our response:
Under BMZ Project:
- In May, 24 Children (11 Girls, 13 Boys) have access to safe spaces with psychosocial support and learning activities.
- 45 Syrian refugee households reported having access to legal guidance in Turkey through the project (14 Girls, 11 Boys 11, 17 Women, 3 Men)
- 28 Syrian refugee households are successfully referred to services: (13 Girls, 11 Boys, 2 Women, 2 Men)

**LEBANON**
Lebanon has received staggering numbers of Syrian refugees. With no official camps, the refugee populations spread out across the country, making it hard to reach.

- Refugees in Lebanon - 30 September, 2018, UNHCR

Our response

*Reached 162,522, of these 85,934 are children
*Counter Reset starting January 2018.

Highlights from our response:
- We have delivered Six awareness-raising sessions on the “Importance of Formal Education” and “Back to School” Campaigns were conducted across the 6 Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) sites.
- We have delivered 2 awareness sessions on education.
- Unnamed Save You Save Me Project
  - 5 Child Protection (CP) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) cases identified & managed, 16 children reached via psychological therapy.
- We delivered 2 workshops on Mobilization for MOE staff.
- ECHO: 19 Jordanians & 349 Syrian Children

**TURKEY**
The first influx of Syrian refugees into Turkey was in April 2011. Currently, individuals registered under STP (Syrians under Temporary Protection) are found across all 81 provinces of Turkey.

- Refugee in Turkey - 27 September, 2018, UNHCR

Our response

*Reached 165,019,
of these3,567,658

Highlights from our response:
- A total of 1109 children (615 girls, 494 boys) benefited from the distribution of teaching and learning materials in our supported programmes in Domiz 2 and Gawilan camps.
- 15 Education Facilitators (7 female; and 8 male) participated in a 3-day Social and Emotional Learning training delivered by our staff.
- 40 children (20 girls; 20 boys) were engaged with learning through Community Action activities in Shivan school in Domiz 2.
- 24 (18 men, 6 women) participants from government and NGOs attended a case management supervision training in coordination with the Child Protection Working Group (CPWG).
- 50 children (26 girls, 24 boys) received 11 workshops in child resilience program in Domiz 2 and Gawilan camps.

**IRAQ**
Approx. 98% of Syrian refugees in Iraq reside in the Kurdistan Regional Governorate, Northern Iraq, where they live in a mixture of camp and non-camp settings.

- Refugee in Iraq - 30 September, 2018, UNHCR

Our response

*Reached: 165,019,
of these3,567,658

Highlights from our response:
- 131,504

Highlights from our response:
- There are 5 Child and Family Centres (CFCs) running across Cairo, for refugee and Egyptian children and their families. So far we reached around 13,867 through our CFCs and 338 children have been identified through the Child Protection Committees (CPCs).
- Since the start of the response, we have opened 5 community schools reaching a total of 6,380 children, however, only two remain open.
- 10,032 education kits have been distributed to refugees and host community children.
- 1,541 teachers have undertaken a Capacity Building Training.
- We have carried out awareness sessions for 1,068 children and adults.
- We have reached 234 women through delivery care services.
**EDUCATION**

Children fleeing violence in Syria have had their worlds turned upside down, and urgently need the safety, stability and structure a positive learning environment can bring to them.

- We provide children with school bags, uniforms, essential school materials, and pay school fees parents cannot afford. We are also providing non-formal education for adolescents.

- The Children implements Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) programmes in Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq, where vulnerable children between 3-6 years of age attend activities that qualify them for school years ahead. Implemented directly and through partners, the ECCD project has reached more than 5,000 children.

**CHILD PROTECTION**

Children urgently require specialised care and protection to help them recover from the extreme psychological and emotional distress they have been through.


- We carry out a range of child protection activities, child resiliency activities, support child protection committees, establish Parent Child Centres and refer children in need of support from psychologists.

- The Children provides psychosocial support and recreational activities for children in Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS), especially for children who witness traumatic events and live in distress. CFS activities help those children to overcome their distress and begin to recover their childhood.

**SHELTER/NFIs**

During the winter, temperatures across the region drop below zero and refugees and IDPs are ill-equipped to cope with the cold, without winter clothes, sufficient blankets, heating or proper shelter.

- The Children and its partners have been delivering essential aid items such as clothing, kitchen sets, and hygiene kits to displaced families in 42 locations in Syria, reaching almost 145,000 people. We have also helped ensure that almost 10,000 people have adequate shelter by providing them with tents or the support to make repairs to their existing shelters.

- The Children shelter team was established in November 2012. To date, it has provided shelter, NFI and WASH assistance to over 20,000 of the most vulnerable families in Lebanon (over 100,000 individuals). SC has focused its interventions in the sub-standard buildings (unfinished houses, converted garages, abandoned buildings, etc) and Informal Settlements. These shelter-types represent 25% and 15% respectively of the registered Syrian refugee population accommodation and also house Palestinians, Lebanese returnees and an increasing number of economically vulnerable Lebanese.

**FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS**

- Food security for Syrian refugees remains a grave concern. In Jordan in partnership with WFP we distribute electronic food vouchers in Za’atari Camp and in host communities, which refugees can exchange for food in local supermarkets.

- We run Cash for Work programmes in Lebanon where families have the opportunity to put their own skills to work in projects which benefit their communities.

- We implemented a Youth Livelihoods project, in Egypt co-funded by Quick Impact Project funding from UNHCR and the French Embassy.

- Women and youth in Egypt and Lebanon benefit from the Home-Based Skills Development Programme (HBSD) through trainings on livelihoods activities, life skills, entrepreneurship and production and marketing. Save the Children also provides equipment and raw material needed to start up income-generating activities.

**HEALTH AND NUTRITION**

Lack of medical care and nutritious food will put children and other vulnerable groups at risk of malnutrition and illness.

- In Egypt and Syria we have conducted vaccination campaigns of Hepatitis A and polio, respectively.

- In Egypt we have conducted capacity building programmes for health staff in Primary Health Clinics and hospitals in Giza District. 44 doctors and nurses were trained on modules such as family health and maternal and child health.

**WASH**

It is essential to improve water, sanitation and hygiene conditions for Syrian refugee children and their families in order to prevent diseases and ensure their well-being.

- We have been distributing household items, winterization kits and WASH/hygiene kits, newborn kits in Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt and Syria, and providing shelter support through materials distribution.

- During the winter we distribute blankets and provide shelter support across the region.

- We have conducted hygiene promotion awareness-raising sessions in Iraq and Syria and Lebanon.

- We distribute drainage kits, water vouchers, dislodging vouchers, metal septic tanks, latrines and a number of other items in Lebanon.

**Our partners**

[Image of various logos of international organizations and agencies]